AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of replicating data objects from a source system to a target system, comprising:

creating an electronic data element comprising a first field having an identifier and a second field having a state of the identifier, wherein the state of the identifier may be set to:

a) a first state, in which said electronic data element may be accessed by one or more data object processing operations and whereby said identifier is assignable to one or more data objects stored in a memory,

b) a second state, in which said electronic data element may not be accessed by one or more data object processing operations and whereby said identifier is assignable to one or more data objects stored in a memory, or

c) a third state, in which said electronic data element may not be accessed by one or more data object processing operations and whereby said identifier is not assignable to one or more data objects stored in a memory;

assigning the identifier to one or more data objects stored in a memory;

assigning a state to the identifier; and

replicating the one or more assigned data objects from <u>a memory in</u> the source

system to <u>a memory in</u> the target system if the state of the identifier is the

third state.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the one or more

assigned data objects prior to replicating the one or more assigned data objects.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising setting the state of the second

field of the electronic data element to the second state.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, upon a commit of the storing

of the one or more data objects, the state of the second field of the electronic data

element is set to the third state.

5. (Currently Amended) A system for avoiding data loss in a data object replication

process, comprising:

a <u>source</u> memory<u>;</u>

a <u>target memory</u>; and

a microprocessor coupled to the <u>source and target memories</u> memory and

programmed to:

create an electronic data element comprising a first field having an

identifier and a second field having a state of the identifier, wherein

the state of the identifier may be set to:

a) a first state, in which said electronic data element may be

accessed by one or more data object processing

operations and whereby said identifier is assignable

to one or more data objects stored in a memory,

b) a second state, in which said electronic data element may

not be accessed by one or more data object

processing operations and whereby said identifier is

assignable to one or more data objects stored in a

memory, or

c) a third state, in which said electronic data element may

not be accessed by one or more data object

processing operations and whereby said identifier is

not assignable to one or more data objects stored in a

memory;

assign the identifier to one or more data objects stored in the source

memory;

assign a state to the identifier; and

replicate the one or more assigned data objects from the source ~~system~~

memory to the target ~~system~~ memory if the state of the identifier is

the third state.

6. (Original)   The system of claim 5, wherein the microprocessor is further

programmed to store the one or more assigned data objects prior to replicating the one

or more assigned data objects.

7. (Original)   The system of claim 6, wherein the microprocessor is further

programmed to set the state of the second field of the electronic data element to the

second state.

8. (Original)   The system of claim 7, wherein the microprocessor is further

programmed to, upon a commit of the storing of the one or more data objects, the state

of the second field of the electronic data element is set to the third state.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for replicating data objects from a source system to

a target system, the system comprising:

   means for creating an electronic data element comprising a first field having an

      identifier and a second field having a state of the identifier, wherein the

      state of the identifier may be set to:

         a) a first state, in which said electronic data element may be

            accessed by one or more data object processing operations

            and whereby said identifier is assignable to one or more data

            objects stored in a memory,

b) a second state, in which said electronic data element may not be

accessed by one or more data object processing operations

and whereby said identifier is assignable to one or more data

objects stored in a memory, or

c) a third state, in which said electronic data element may not be

accessed by one or more data object processing operations

and whereby said identifier is not assignable to one or more

data objects stored in a memory;

means for assigning the identifier to one or more data objects stored in a

memory;

means for assigning a state to the identifier; and

means for replicating the one or more assigned data objects from a memory in

the source system to a memory in the target system if the state of the

identifier is the third state.